CLAIMS

1. A folding apparatus, comprising:

a folding section for folding a web in two so that opposite side edges of the web are in a predetermined positional relationship with respect to each other;

a correction section for correcting a moving direction of the web by contacting the web in the folding section;

a detecting section for detecting a reference portion of the web to be used as a reference in a web folding operation so as to output positional information regarding a position of the detected reference portion; and

a control section for controlling the correction section based on the positional information so as to bring a positional relationship between the opposite side edges of the web closer to the predetermined positional relationship.

2. A folding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the correction section corrects a moving direction of the web by altering a tension of the web.

3. A folding apparatus for folding in two a continuous web being continuous in a running direction of the web so that opposite side edges of the web are in a predetermined positional relationship with respect to each other, the apparatus comprising:

an abutting member provided so as to extend in the running direction between the opposite side edges of the web, wherein the abutting member abuts against the web to fold the web into a V or U shape;

a nipping member provided downstream of the abutting member for nipping the web folded by the abutting member so as to fold the web in two;

a contact section provided between an upstream end of the abutting member and the nipping member for contacting an inner surface and/or an outer surface of the web being folded in the V or U shape;

a detecting section for detecting a reference portion of the web to be used as a reference in a web folding operation so as to output positional information regarding a position of the detected reference portion;

a driving section for changing a state of contact of the contact section and/or the abutting member with the web; and

a control section for controlling an action of the driving section based on the positional information so as to bring a positional relationship between the opposite side edges of the web closer to the predetermined positional relationship.

4. A method for producing a worn article, the method comprising the steps of:

placing an absorbent body on a surface of a web;

folding the web in two in a folding section so that opposite side edges of the web are close to or aligned with each other;

detecting a reference portion of the web to be used as a reference in a folding operation to generate positional information regarding a position of the detected reference portion;

correcting a path of the web based on the positional

information so that the opposite side edges of the folded web are in a predetermined positional relationship with respect to each other by bringing a contact section into contact with the web in the folding section;

bonding portions of the folded web to each other to form a bonded portion; and

cutting the bonded web along the bonded portion.

5. A method for producing a worn article according to claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

placing an elastic member on a surface of the web; and

forming a hole to be a leg hole in the web.